Statement-III

Growth Rate (Annual percentage increase) in pocurement of Rice

Marketing Year	Total Rice (in Lakh Tonnes)	Annual Growth rate (percentage increase over last year)
1987-88	69·02	..
1988-89	77·29	11·98
1989-90 (P)	118·67	53·54
1990-91 (P)	126·71	6·77

P-Provisional.

Modernisation of Agricultural Research and Extension Systems

4063. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken during the last three years, till date to modernise agricultural research and extension systems and what is the outcome thereof; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to modernise agricultural research and extension system during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Sir, The Government have taken steps to modernise the agricultural research and extension system by continuous upgradation of infrastructural facilities and development of human resources. Modern Technology has helped the farming Community in improving quality of produce and increasing agricultural production.

(b) A Standing Policy Planning Committee has been constituted to render advice to Indian Council of Agricultural Research for effective planning of research and upgrading the research facilities.

Dryland Farming

4064. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps to promote dryland farming; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the names of the States where schemes have been sponsored by the Central Government to promote dryland farming;

(c) whether any such scheme has been introduced in Orissa;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to promote dryland farming in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Following Schemes/Projects are in operation to promote dryland agriculture:—

(i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.

(ii) Himalayan Watershed Management Project. Uttar Pradesh. (World Bank Aided)

(iii) Pilot Project for Watershed Development in Rainfed Areas. (World Bank Aided)

(iv) World Bank Aided Integrated Watershed Development Project (Hills)

(v) World Bank Aided Integrated Watershed Development Project (Plains)

(vi) DANDIA Aided Karnataka Watershed Development Project.

(vii) DANDIA Aided Comprehensive Watershed Development Integrated Areas in Tirunelveli Tamil Nadu.

(b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Area (NWDPRA) is being implemented in all the Community Development Blocks of all the States where less than 30 per cent arable land is under assured means of irrigation.

(c) Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas is in operation in Orissa. Orissa is also covered under World Bank aided Integrated Watershed Development Project (Plains).

(d) Does not arise.

(e) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas is in operation to achieve the twin objectives of sustainable production of bio-mass and restoration of ecological balance by appropriate conservation measures and diversified production systems through active public participation.

National Research Centre

4065. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh for setting up a National Research Centre for Veterinary Sciences, Fisheries, Palm oil and sericulture;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) the stage at which these proposals are pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICUTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Sir, a proposal has been received from Andhra Pradesh Government for setting up a National Research Centre on Oil-palm.

(b) and (c) An expert committee has been set up by the I.C.A.R. to identify a possible site in potential oilpalm growing states.

Pesticides Poisoning

4066. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted study to ascertain the steps taken by State Governments to make pesticides poisoning a noticeable occurrence as provided in the Insecticides Act, 1968; and

(b) if so, what are the details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Most of the State Governments have already notified Officers for reporting occurrences of pesticides poisoning under Section 26 of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

(b) As per the information furnished by these functionaries a statement showing the number of pesticides poisoning cases during the years 1988-91 is annexed as Statement.